United States Magistrate Judge

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United States of America Ramon SANCHEZ

PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT

I, Special Agent Moises Martinez, declare under penalty of perjury, the following is true and correct:

On June 28, 2008 at approximately 5:00 AM, Customs and Border Protection Officer (CBPO) Vincent Nguyen was performing primary duties at vehicle primary lane three. Ramon SANCHEZ-Castellanos, accompanied by Maria ALVARADO and Gerardo SANCHEZ, attempted to enter the United States from Mexico through the Otay Mesa Port of Entry, San Diego, California. Ramon SANCHEZ was the driver of a 2006 Nissan Quest bearing California license plate 5PUZ062. Officer received two negative Customs declarations from SANCHEZ. Officer Nguyen inspected the vehicle and discovered two zipped dark-colored nylon duffel bags and saw the word "corrosive" on a dark brown cardboard barrel. At this time, Officer Nguyen referred SANCHEZ, the two passengers and vehicle to secondary inspection lot. A secondary inspection of the vehicle revealed a total of two cylindrical shaped cardboard containers containing approximately 100 kilograms (120 pounds) of iodine in the rear area of the vehicle. During a Post-Miranda interview, SANCHEZ stated that he had bought the iodine in Tijuana and would be paid five hundred dollars by individuals in Ontario, California for smuggling the iodine into the United States.

SANCHEZ was arrested and charged with violation of Title 18 USC 545, General Smuggling, and was booked into the Metropolitan Correction Center, San Diego, CA.

Executed on June 28, 2008 at 3:00 pm

On the basis of the facts presented in this probable cause statement consisting of 2 pages, I find probable cause to believe the that the defendant(s) named in this probable cause statement committed the offense on June 28, 2008 in violation of Title 18 USC 545, General Smuggling.

United States Magistrate Judge

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